

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY MAY 05 2002

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central African Time in Afrikaans and at 08:30 Central African Time in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

In the news today:

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW SARL PRESIDENT

SHUTTLEWORTH HAS AMATEURS AND SCHOOLS EXCITED

RESULTS OF THE 2002 SARL HF FIELD DAY

AMATEURS AND MOTOR SPORT

VISIT SCOPEX, A VERY INTERESTING EVENT

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join the SARL, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

The news follows in detail. MESSAGE FROM THE NEW SARL PRESIDENT

It is our pleasure to quote the inaugural speech of Sid Tyler, ZS6AYC, the newly elected President of the South African Radio League, which he delivered at the dinner on the evening of Saturday April 20 for all those who could not attend:

“To me it is both a privilege and a pleasure to be in this position where I can represent both amateur radio and the South African Radio League. I am also proud to be a member of the SARL. I would like to thank the members and my fellow councillors for the confidence they have shown. I will do the very best I can for the South African Radio League and of course also for amateur radio in general. My thanks also go to the outgoing President, Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ, for all the work he did and the results achieved during his long term in office. He built, with council, a platform on which we can build the future of amateur radio. Thanks also to the wives and families of the council members, for their support to the men on the SARL council.

By this time we have all heard of the revolutionary budget which was approved at the AGM. As was clearly stated in the AGM, the workability of this budget depends on the SARL obtaining an increase in membership. I must ask all SARL members, but especially the club chairmen and their committees to help with this. The required membership increase cannot be achieved by council members only, they are too few by far. This is important because there is an

element of risk involved in the budget - we hold the future of amateur radio in our hands. We are challenged to ensure that the South African Radio League remains a proud organisation and that amateur radio remain a viable hobby. I believe that this can be done if we work together."

SHUTTLEWORTH HAS AMATEURS AND SCHOOLS EXCITED

Thanks to the initiative of the Oakdale Amateur Radio Club the special call sign ZSRSA was issued by ICASA to Mark Shuttleworth a few days before being blasted into space, and the organizing done by ARISS worldwide, radio amateurs and schools in South Africa experienced an exciting week.

Shuttleworth this week completed four Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts. On April 29 Shuttleworth spoke with students at Bishops College—his alma mater—marking the first ARISS QSO with a school in Africa.

"I'm living my own dream here," the 28-year-old Shuttleworth told the Bishops students. "We need to think about our future and dream about a better future, and I hope that this project—the realization of a dream—will inspire some other people to pursue theirs."

Shuttleworth also thrilled several South African amateurs on Wednesday afternoon by acknowledging their calls during a pass over Southern Africa. There may be more, but we know that the following callsigns were acknowledged: ZS6BTD, ZS6JON, ZR6AGA, ZS1DFR, ZS6GPM, ZS6TW, ZR6HPJ, ZS6IIX and ZS6NE.

The school contacts involve quite an organisation and co-ordination. Worldcom provides a free interconnection between amateurs, located around the world who participates in the ARISS project, to the school involved and in the case of a South African school, also to an amateur in this country, this time Gerald Klatzko, ZS6BTD, who links into a local conference net. From this net other amateurs around the country put the program on the air through repeaters. The amateurs involved were: .Louis de Bruyn, Dave Reece, Marten du Preez, Garnett Gould, Bruce Taylor and Gerald Klatzko. Our thanks and appreciation goes to all these stations that put in much of their time, effort and equipment for such events.

RESULTS OF THE 2002 SARL HF FIELD DAY CONTEST

Following the 2002 SARL HF Field Day the contest committee received 11 logs, two for single operator stations, eight for multi-operator stations and one check log. The committee determined that there could have been two more logs in the multi operator category and three more in the single operator category. The results for 2002 are:

Single Operator Portable:

1st Andrew ZS1AN/P 1077 points 2nd Gary ZS5NK/P 152 points

Multi-operator Portable:

1st ZS6XT/P4 (Pieter ZS6XT and Tjaart ZS6KW) 2261 points; 2nd ZS1CT/P Cape Town ARS 1132 points; 3rd ZS1OAR/P Overberg ARK 762 points; 4th ZS5HAC/P Hibiscus Coast ARC 744 points; 5th ZS5D/P Durban ARC 681 points; 6th ZS4BFN/P Bloemfontein ARC 642 points; 7th ZS1BAK/P Boland ARK 618 points; 8th ZS6SRC/P Secunda ARC 454 points.

A check log was received from Rob ZS6RAP.

The contest committee would like to remind participants that it is important to carefully read the contest rules, as well as the general rules for contests. A number of logs were received without summary sheets and no scoring done.

Thanks you to all the participants.

AMATEURS AND MOTOR SPORT

South Africa's only international rally the Total Rally of South Africa, with 330 km of special stages under the direction of Diether Kok Clerk of the Course and his committee, has just ended. The rally was also the second leg of the Africa Championship where last year Pretorians Schalk Burger and Piet Swanepoel featured as winners.

Fifty nine competitors, including seven foreigners kicked off on Friday morning at the Zwartkops race track just outside Pretoria to overnight at Badplaas and finished there on Saturday afternoon.

The communication services for the safety and control of the rally were provided for by 19 amateurs, mostly members of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club. Extensive use of the club's fixed repeaters in Pretoria and Witbank and their mobile repeater, erected in the east close to the Swaziland border, and various HF frequencies were put to good use. The terrain was difficult, especially so as Badplaas lies in a valley and all was not 2 m FM - four stages could only be handled on HF. Friday's two control points in Pretoria and Badplaas were also HF linked. Difficult yes, but along with it went a lot of satisfaction in putting skills to practical use!

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club would like to express its gratitude to clubs that allowed them to use their repeaters and also to their members that tolerated the invasion.

We thank and congratulate the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club on the excellent service they once again rendered to the organisers, competitors, spectators and all others in connection with the event.

This is always an excellent opportunity for the participating amateurs to sharpen their operating skills and preparedness for any type of emergency.

Well done Pretoria ARC!

SCOPEX: THE TELESCOPE AND ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY EXHIBITION

The Johannesburg Centre of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa and the Alberton Amateur Radio Club invites young and old to their Telescope and Astronomical Exhibition, called: SCOPEX. VENUE: SA Military History Museum (War Museum); 22 Erlswold Road, Saxonwold - next to the Zoo; (Entrance Fee: Adults R5 Children R2, Senior Citizens R3); Date Saturday May 18 2002 for more information you can phone 082 461 2819, Koos; A full agenda and events for the day will be in next Sunday's bulletin please keep this date open. Sarlnews had a peek at the program and it surely it looks very interesting and informative and a visit will not be a waste of time.

SARL NEWS AT HOME AGAIN

With the replacement of hardware and loading of software the past week, Sarlnews is active again from the home of George, ZS6NE, the current news compiler. However one problem still remains ie the up to date mailing list of subscribers was lost and the present one is not up to date. There is unfortunately no other way to update it other than to wait till previous subscribers complain and ask to be put on the list again. Sarlnews apologises for this situation but will endeavour to prevent such a mishap in future.

In case present subscribers know of previous subscribers who still do not receive the bulletin, it will be appreciated if they will inform such persons of the situation and ask them to email Sarlnews with a request to be put on the mailing list again. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Many thanks also goes to Fritz, ZS6ASF, from whose home the bulletin was compiled and distributed lately and for all his work in connection therewith.

SARLNEWS thanks all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organizations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins.

This bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and read by.....fromas a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750 and 7082 kHz and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz.

ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

At noon on Sundays the SARL President's net is on the air on 7082 kHz.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us.

Goodbye everyone.

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